

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4263
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
PRIVATISATION OF VSNL
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to privatize Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL); and
- (b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): As per a Cabinet decision of 1.2.2001, Government will disinvest 25% of Government's holding in Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. To a strategic partner and 1.97% of the equity would be offered to the employees, thereby reducing the share of Government equity in Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. To 26%.